

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Koichi WATANABE et al.  
Title: SPUTTERING TARGET  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 12/29/2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

#4  
C7  
3/22/01

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF  
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

In order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents cited in the International Search report of Applicants' International Application No. PCT/JP99/03407. A copy of the International search report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the Examiner is attached.

Document A7 is a foreign counterpart to Documents A1 and A2.

Document A8 is a foreign counterpart to Document A3.

Document A14 is a foreign counterpart to Document A4.

English translations of documents A5-A14 are not readily available; however, English language abstracts have been provided. The absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date.

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528 Rec'd. CT/PTO 29 DEC 2000

Atty. Dkt. No. 017447/0170

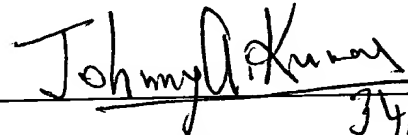
Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 29, 2000

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